

## METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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## Memorandum

TO: Planning Committee DATE: January 2, 2009

FR: Executive Director W. I.

RE: <u>Draft Transportation Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the Transportation 2035 Plan and 2009</u> Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #09-06

MTC has prepared a Draft Transportation Air Quality Conformity Analysis on the Transportation 2035 Plan and 2009 TIP Amendment #09-06 in accordance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) transportation conformity regulations and the Bay Area Air Quality Conformity Protocol (MTC Resolution No. 3757). The conformity analysis addresses only those projects identified in the financially constrained Transportation 2035 Plan and TIP Amendment #09-06. MTC is required to determine that (1) the motor vehicle emissions in the Plan and TIP are lower than the transportation conformity budget in the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the national 8-hour ozone standard and the national carbon monoxide standard, and that (2) both the Plan and TIP provide for the timely implementation of Transportation Control Measures (TCMs). In addition, the multi-agency Air Quality Conformity Task Force is to be consulted on the methodology, approach and draft findings as part of the interagency consultation process. The consultation occurred on June 9 and December 17, 2008.

Based on the draft conformity analysis, staff will likely recommend the following positive conformity findings for the Final Air Quality Conformity Analysis:

- This conformity assessment was conducted consistent with EPA's transportation conformity regulations and with the Bay Area Air Quality Conformity Protocol adopted by MTC as Resolution No. 3757.
- The Transportation 2035 Plan and 2009 TIP/Amendment #09-06 provide for the implementation of TCMs pursuant to federal regulations.
- For the national carbon monoxide standard, motor vehicle emissions in the Plan and TIP are lower than the transportation conformity budget in the SIP.
- For the national 8-hour ozone standard, motor vehicle emissions in the Plan and TIP are lower than the transportation conformity budget in the SIP.

## **Next Steps**

The Draft Conformity Analysis is subject to a 30-day public review period, which starts on January 9, 2009 and closes on February 9, 2009. Staff will prepare responses to written comments received, and consult with the Air Quality Conformity Task Force on the proposed final conformity analysis. The proposed Final Air Quality Conformity Analysis is slated for approval by the Planning Committee on March 13, 2009 and the Commission on March 25, 2009.

Steve Heminger